



German  
Biosecurity Programme

ROBERT KOCH INSTITUT



**BNITM**



Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine



**AFENET**  
African Field Epidemiology Network  
A healthier Africa

Swiss TPH



## **Global-Partnership-Initiated-Biosecurity-Academia for Controlling Health Threats (GIBACHT)**

GIBACHT is an educational programme established and supported by the German Federal Foreign Office. The training programme focuses on threats and risks conferred by biological agents and bioweapons and their successful prevention and control. The programme is offered and responsibly conducted by two German institutes, the Robert Koch Institute in Berlin and the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine in Hamburg, as well as the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute in Basel, Switzerland, and the African Field Epidemiology Network in Kampala, Uganda.

For more information please visit: [www.gibacht.org](http://www.gibacht.org)

### **The objectives of the programme are:**

- To provide basic understanding and training in control of infectious diseases and the management of biohazards,
- To intensify and sustain international co-operation in the fields of biosafety, biosecurity and the prevention and management of epidemics,
- To strengthen national and local centres for infectious disease epidemiology and management, biosafety and biosecurity.

Expected proficiency acquired through completion of the programme includes:

- Comprehensive knowledge of selected infectious agents and transmission, including treatment and prevention,
- Sampling and safe handling of biological specimens and potentially hazardous materials,
- Utilisation of adequate epidemiological tools,
- Managing infectious disease outbreak scenarios,
- Surveillance and contact tracing,
- Containment measures, including personal security and community protection,
- Knowledge of international health regulations,
- Communication management under disaster or extreme conditions.
- Knowledge on how to develop and utilize a case study on biosafety/biosecurity as a training tool

### **Programme structure**

Three one-week workshops will be held in Hamburg, Berlin, and Kampala. The courses will be complemented by structured e-learning modules covering relevant topics. After successful completion of the programme, the fellows will be granted six European credit transfer system (ECTS) points from the University of Basel. To achieve this, they are required to:

- Participate successfully in eight obligatory e-learning modules, which will be made accessible

from 1 – 31 January 2018 (around 10h student investment time, in total) and which will be graded; the best 16 fellows will be accepted into the full programme

- Participate successfully in 12 more eLearning modules, which will be made available from 15 February to 31 March 2018 (about 16h of student investment time)
- Participate in the introductory workshop from 16 to 20 April 2018 in Hamburg, Germany
- Participate in the second workshop with a main focus on real-time simulation of biological incidents from 16 to 20 July 2018 in Berlin, Germany
- Participate in the final face to face course with field testing of developed case studies from 15 to 19 October 2018 in Kampala, Uganda.
- Complete additional distance-based group work (during and in between workshops) concerning the development of case studies (around 40h student investment time)
- Conduct a biosafety/biosecurity training in their home institutions between the first and the second workshop (scientific exchange).

The programme budget covers economy-class flights, visa fees and accommodation. Daily meals are provided; no daily allowances (per diems) will be paid. There are no tuition fees.

**Requirements:**

- Professional experience of at least two years in either the public health or medical sector, preferably with engagement in the management, prevention and control of infectious diseases
- A degree or proficiency in at least one of the following fields:
  - Public Health,
  - Medicine,
  - Epidemiology,
  - Microbiology,
  - Biology,
  - Equivalent life science disciplines,
- An endorsement document of the current employer confirming a minimum of a one-year contract duration following completion of the programme is required. This endorsement should include an assurance that the GIBACHT fellow will be released from work for the three one-week workshops.

The following wording can be used for this assurance in the endorsement letter:

“Our institute supports the participation of Mr/Mrs/Dr \_\_\_\_\_ in the GIBACHT fellowship and will release (him/her) from work for the three GIBACHT workshops, which will take place from 16 to 20 April 2018, 16 to 20 July 2018 and 15 to 19 October 2018.”

Advanced proficiency in English is required for all participants, for example: TOEFL Paper 550, TOEFL Computer 213, TOEFL Internet 79–80, IELTS 6.0, native speaker, or completed higher education in English (with written proof). For applicants without proof of English proficiency, we intend to conduct phone interviews.

Internet access is required for the e-learning modules.

Successful completion of the programme will be certified after:

- Successful completion of all GIBACHT e-learning modules
- Presence and active participation in all three workshops
- Active participation in the case study development process (during and in between workshops)
- Conducting the Scientific Exchange training at their home institution
- Completion of distance-based deliverables in a group

**Selection procedure:**

As spaces are limited, a two-stage selection procedure will be applied:

- The steering board of the programme will select the applicants to be admitted to the first eight e-learning modules
- After the completion of these eight modules, the best 16 fellows will be selected and admitted to the full programme.

**Application**

In order to apply for participation in the programme, please submit

- A CV,
- A letter of motivation (300 words max),
- An endorsement document of the current employer,
- Proof of English proficiency,
- Accredited copies of application documents confirming your eligibility as outlined above.

Deadline for electronic and hardcopy applications is **30 November 2017**.

Women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Please submit *hardcopy applications* to:

PD Dr Norbert Schwarz  
GIBACHT Programme Office  
Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine  
Bernhard Nocht Str. 74  
20359 Hamburg  
Germany

Please submit *electronic applications* under [info@gibacht.org](mailto:info@gibacht.org)

Incomplete applications will **NOT** be considered.